†WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 10TH DECEMBER, 1992

Draft Treaty on Chemical Weapons

*241. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the Draft Treaty drawn by the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament for banning chemical weapons;

(b) whether Government of India have communicated its reaction to the said draft; and

(c) whether the question of access and use of technology of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes was also discussed in the NAM Conference in Jakarta; if so, what was the consensus reached in the Conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Chemical Weapons Convention, which has been negotiated in the Conference on Disarmament, aims at the complete elimination of all chemical weapons from the earth. These obligations of the States Parties shall be subjected to verification by the international organization set up for implementation of the Convention.

(b) The Indian delegation to the Conference on Disarmament participated in the consensus decision to transmit the draft Convention to the U.N. General Assembly. In the UNGA, India co-sponsored a resolution, adopted without a vote by consensus, urging all states to accede to the Chemical Weapons Convention at an early date.

(c) The Final Document of the Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Nonaligned countries held at Jakarta, *inter-alia* urges States "to ensure the availability of nuclear materials; equipment and technology for peaceful purposes on a non-discriminatory, predictable and long-term basis".

Issue Relating to Debt Burden, Environment and Trade Barriers at N.A.M. Summit

*242. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has failed to raise issues relating to debt burden, environment and trade barriers in a big way against the rich G-7 countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. India had raised the issues of trade barriers, debt, environment and other development issues at the recent NAM Summit in Jakarta and at other fora like the G-15 Summit. The NAM Summit Communique incorporates a detailed chapter on international economic issues emphasising the importance the nonaligned countries attach to such issues and the need for the international comunity to find solutions to the problems facing the nonaligned countries. India played an important role in mobilising a consensus within the Non-aligned on such issues and in ensuring that our concerns were adequately reflected in the Communique.

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† The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, the 10th December, 1992 was cancelled. Answers to questions put down in the lists of that day were laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, the 16th December, 1992.